

DETAILED AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 is amended as follows:

1. (Twice amended) An easy open, reusable closure apparatus for a container having [a neck with] a terminal end [having] with an orifice and a radially outwardly extending bead having an outer surface and a radially outwardly extending undercut, [an upper portion, and a lower portion] the closure apparatus comprising:

a cap portion having a top [panel], a peripherally depending side wall comprising an inner surface that conforms to said bead outer surface and a radially inwardly extending peripheral lip that engages said bead undercut sealably securing said closure to said container, wherein a material housed by said container is secured in said container by said cap portion [and a peripherally depending skirt]; and

a handle depending from said cap portion.

Claim 3 is amended as follows:

3. (Amended) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 1, wherein said cap portion further comprises a peripherally depending skirt, wherein said skirt communicates and depends from said side wall lip [wherein said skirt] and extends radially downward away from said container [neck].

Claim 5 is amended as follows:

5. (Amended) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 4, wherein said handle upper portion [communicates and depends from said skirt and further] comprises an inner surface and an outer surface.

Claim 6 is amended as follows:

6. (Twice amended) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 5, wherein said inner surface abuts [the] an outer surface of said container [neck upper portion] over an extended length wherein said inner surface is substantially vertical relative to the plane of said top [panel].

Claim 8 is amended as follows:

8. (Amended) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 4, wherein said handle lower portion radiates outward from said container [neck lower portion] such that a gap is formed there between.

Claim 9 is amended as follows:

9. (Amended) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 4, wherein said fulcrum portion abuts an outer surface of said container [neck outer surface] such that upon application of pressure to said lower handle portion outer surface, the side wall lip is lever-action disengaged from the bead undercut.

Claim 11 is amended as follows:

11. (Amended) The easy open closure apparatus in claim 10, wherein said material allows said cap portion to temporarily deform, allowing said cap portion to disengage said bead and be re-secured to said bead, said cap portion always returning to its original form.

Claim 13 is amended as follows:

13. (Twice amended) A method of opening a container using the easy open, reusable closure apparatus for a container having [a neck with] a terminal end [having] with an orifice and a radially outwardly extending bead having an outer surface and a radially outwardly extending undercut, [an upper portion, and a lower portion,] the closure apparatus comprising:

a cap portion having a top [panel], a peripherally depending side wall having a radially inwardly extending peripheral lip that engages said bead undercut sealably securing said closure to said container, wherein a material housed by said container is secured in said container by said cap portion [and a peripherally depending skirt]; and

a handle depending from said cap portion, said handle further comprising an upper portion, a lower portion, and a fulcrum portion there between said upper and lower portions; the method comprising the steps of:

holding [the neck of] said container and the lower handle portion of said handle with at least one hand; and

depressing said lower handle portion toward [said neck of] said container until said peripheral lip disengages said bead undercut.

Claim 14 is amended as follows:

14. (Twice amended) A method of reusing the easy open, reusable closure apparatus for a container having [a neck with] a terminal end [having] with an orifice and a radially outwardly extending bead having an outer surface and a radially outwardly extending undercut, [an upper portion, and a lower portion,] the closure apparatus comprising:

a cap portion having a top [panel], a peripherally depending side wall having a radially inwardly extending peripheral lip that engages said bead undercut sealably securing said closure to said container, wherein a material housed by said container is secured in said container by said cap portion [and a peripherally depending skirt]; and

a handle depending from said cap portion, said handle further comprising an upper portion, a lower portion, and a fulcrum portion there between said upper and lower portions; the method comprising the steps of:

providing a container; and

pressing said cap portion of the easy open closure apparatus firmly down over said bead until said peripheral lip engages said bead undercut.